

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A joint construction of cobalt-based alloy in which a cobalt-based alloy material portion is diffusion bonded to a base metal portion by interposing an insert metal between said cobalt-based alloy portion, in which granular or massive eutectic carbide disperses in a matrix of metal microstructure, and said base metal portion, wherein

a layer which has an element of said insert metal is formed over said base metal portion, and said cobalt-based alloy portion is located over said ~~insert metal~~ layer.

2. (Original) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy according to claim 1, wherein said base metal portion and said cobalt-based alloy portion contain an element diffused from said insert metal.

3. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy according to claim 1, wherein said insert metal layer contains an element diffused from said base metal portion and cobalt diffused from said cobalt-based alloy portion.

4. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 1, wherein the grain size of said eutectic carbide is not larger than 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .

5. (Currently Amended) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 1, wherein said base metal portion is ~~formed of any~~ a material selected from the group consisting of carbon steel, low alloy steel, and stainless steel.

6. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 1, wherein said cobalt-based alloy portion contains 0.6 to 3% C, 2% or less Si, 25 to 32% Cr, 15% or less W, 0 to 3% Fe, 0 to 3% Ni, and 0 to 6% Mo by weight, the balance being Co and unavoidable impurities.

7-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 3, wherein the grain size of said eutectic carbide is not larger than 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .

17. (Currently Amended) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 3, wherein said base metal portion is ~~formed of any~~ a material selected from the group consisting of carbon steel, low alloy steel, and stainless steel.

18. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 17, wherein said cobalt-based alloy portion contains 0.6 to 3% C, 2% or less Si, 25 to 32% Cr, 15% or less W, 0 to 3% Fe, 0 to 3% Ni, and 0 to 6% Mo by weight, the balance being Co and unavoidable impurities.

19. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 17, wherein said cobalt-based alloy portion contains 0.6 to 3% C, 2% or less Si, 25 to 32% Cr, 15% or less W, 0 to 3% Fe, 0 to 3% Ni, and 0 to 6% Mo by weight, the balance being Co and unavoidable impurities.

20. (Currently Amended) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 4, wherein said base metal portion is ~~formed of any~~ of carbon steel, low alloy steel, and stainless steel.

21. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 4, wherein said cobalt-based alloy portion contains 0.6 to 3% C, 2% or less Si, 25 to 32% Cr, 15% or less W, 0 to 3% Ni, and 0 to 6% Mo by weight, the balance being Co and unavoidable impurities.

22. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy according to claim 2, wherein said insert metal layer contains an element diffused from said base metal portion and cobalt diffused from said cobalt-based alloy portion.

23. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 2, wherein the grain size of said eutectic carbide is not larger than 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .

24. (Currently Amended) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 2, wherein said base metal portion is ~~formed of any of~~ carbon steel, low alloy steel, and stainless steel.

25. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 2, wherein said

cobalt-based alloy portion contains 0.6 to 3% C, 2% or less Si, 25 to 32% Cr, 15% or less W, 0 to 3% Fe, 0 to 3% Ni, and 0 to 6% Mo by weight, the balance being Co and unavoidable impurities.

26. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 22, wherein the grain size of said eutectic carbide is not larger than 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .

27. (Currently Amended) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 22, wherein said base metal portion is ~~formed of any of~~ carbon steel, low alloy steel, and stainless steel.

28. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 22, wherein said cobalt-based alloy portion contains 0.6 to 3% C, 2% or less Si, 25 to 32% Cr, 15% or less W, 0 to 3% Fe, 0 to 3% Ni, and 0 to 6% Mo by weight, the balance being Co and unavoidable impurities.

29. (Previously Presented) The joint construction of cobalt-based alloy material according to claim 27, wherein said cobalt-based alloy portion contains 0.6 to 3% C, 2% or

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less Si, 25 to 32% Cr, 15% or less W, 0 to 3% Fe, 0 to 3% Ni, and 0 to 6% Mo by weight, the balance being Co and unavoidable impurities.

30-40. (Canceled)